Early Childhood Education Centres in Madhya Pradesh

2598. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established Early Childhood Education Centres in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details and the purposes thereof;

(c) what is the number of such Centres located in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) whether Government propose to open more such Centres in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINI13ER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVE-LOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are 4365 Early Childhood Education (ECE) Centres functioning in 9 Educationally Backward States, viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orispa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal. The Early Childhood Education is designed towards improving Children's communication (language) and cognitive (Social, emotional, intellectual and personality development) skills as a preparation for entry into primary schools. The Early Childhood Education Centres are intended to provide early childhood education to the children in the age group of 3—6 years.

(c) Out of these 4365 ECE Centres, 354 Centres are in Madhya Pradesh. In addition the National Council of Educational Research and training (NCERT) has set up 65 ECE Centres in rural blocks of Mandla district.

(d) No, Sir. The pre-school education shall be imparted through the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme.

(e) Does not arise.

Food Aid Scheme in M.P.

2599. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have extended food aid scheme under World Food Programme to children and their mothers in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with areas covered and number of beneficiaries in that State;

(c) whether Government have any proposal for extending this programme to the whole of the State; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 2.17 lakh ICDS beneficiaries in 32 ICDS Projects in three districts (Dhar, Jhabua and Khargorne) are getting Supplementary Nutrition out of food commodities provided by WFP. ″